

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2005 – 2010

Appendix: Evaluations

Below is a list of recent, ongoing and upcoming evaluations within the program areas in Rural Development.

Recent (Pre-FY 2004):

1. Office of the Inspector General (OIG) review of B&I loan program completed in FY 2002
2. Government Accountability Office (GAO) completed study of the section 521 program on Rental Assistance contracts
3. Program and Assessment Rating Tool (PART) analysis for MFH direct program and Rental Assistance completed in FY 2002
4. PART analysis for Electric program completed in FY 2002
5. PART analysis for Water and Wastewater program completed in 2002
6. PART analysis for Community Facilities direct loan program completed in FY 2003
7. PART analysis of Telecommunications program completed in FY 2003
8. PART analysis of B&I guaranteed loan program completed in FY 2003
9. Management Control Reviews for B&I, Cooperative Statistics, and 1890 University programs
10. Management Control Reviews for the Section 502 SFH Guaranteed Housing program and 504 Housing Repair and Rehabilitation loan program completed in 2003

Ongoing:

1. University Research analyzing impact of Value Added Producer grant program
2. OIG audit of Value Added Producer grant program
3. GAO review of rural elderly housing programs, findings of this review will include Section 502 and 504 programs
4. IBM Business Consulting Services audit of the SFH guaranteed loan program to determine whether lenders are processing and servicing loans in accordance with program instructions
5. Management Control Reviews conducted regularly to evaluate the effectiveness of program operations; reviews are conducted every two to five years, or as needed, by program experts
6. Business Programs Assessment Reviews



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FY 2004 Activity:

1. Rural Development-wide performance planning evaluation to identify and develop the means to systematically plan, track and report on key elements of performance activities
2. External program review of Cooperative Services programs
3. Comprehensive Property Assessment of the condition of the MFH properties and the quality and effectiveness of these programs
4. GAO study of the Section 521 program
5. GAO review of Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities
6. OIG study of the Section 521 program
7. PART analysis for Value Added Producer grant program
8. PART analysis for Intermediary Relending program
9. PART analysis for Rural Business Enterprise grant program
10. PART analysis for Section 502 Single Family Housing programs (direct & guaranteed)
11. PART analysis for Mutual Self-Help grant program
12. PART analysis for Distance Learning & Telemedicine loans and grant program
13. Tracking system for Distance Learning & Telemedicine and Broadband
14. Telecommunications and Electric to monitor subscriber growth from year of loan approval to determine accuracy of projections
15. Business Programs Assessment Reviews.



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